



NEWS RELEASE

Joseph E. Kernan, Governor
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Kernan awards \$365,960 grant to train 201 Howard and Cass County residents

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. –Today Gov. Joe Kernan announced a grant to improve the skills of 201 workers at 10 Howard and Cass County companies through a consortium of area businesses.

Administered through the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the \$365,960 Incumbent Worker Training grant was awarded to the Cass/Logansport Industrial Alliance. Businesses participating in the program are **Ameri-Tek Manufacturing Inc., ElcoTextron Inc., ESSROC Cement Corp., Federal Mogul, Heat Treat Inc. (HTI), Logan Stampings Inc., Matthew-Warren Inc., Modine Manufacturing Co., Small Parts Inc. and Tyson Fresh Meats Inc.**

With the grant, along with a \$1.5 million match from the Alliance members, Ivy Tech State College will offer workers training in Microsoft Office, quality and business, computerized numeric coding operation, electricity, millwrighting, machine operation and maintenance. The training will result in career development certificates for the participants, along with college credit that may be applied toward a technical certificate or an associate's degree from Ivy Tech.

"I am pleased to see these Indiana businesses coming together to meet a common need," said Kernan. "It is critical that companies like these make a commitment to strengthen the skills of their workforce through training programs such as this one. Through this type of effort, companies can maintain a competitive advantage, while individual employees receive more marketable skills. It's a win-win for everyone involved."

The Cass/Logansport Industrial Alliance is made up of:

- **Ameri-Tek Manufacturing Inc.**, located in Logansport, has been in the metal stamping business for over 48 years. Its manufactured products serve clients in the areas of automotive, electronics, controls, switches, lighting, electric motors and a number of other industries. Ameri-Tek Manufacturing Inc. employs 15 people, four of which will be participating in Ivy Tech's training program.
- **ElcoTextron, Inc.**, a subsidiary of Textron Fastening Systems, is located in Logansport. ElcoTextron's primary market is the automotive industry and it is the world's largest fastening solutions company. The Logansport facility manufactures screws, washers, anchors, fasteners and a number of fastening devices. Nineteen of the 299 employees will participate in this training opportunity.
- **Essroc Cement Corp.**, founded in 1866 and originally named Coplay Cement Co., is the fifth-largest cement producer in North America. The Logansport cement plant employs 76 people, with one employee participating in this training program.

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- **Federal Mogul** was founded in 1899 and is a global manufacturer and distributor of a variety of parts for the automobile, marine and industrial markets. The company produces engine components, transmission, breaks, chassis, seals, bearings, wipers and a number of other products. Producing sockets, connectors and backplates for clients including Visteon, Yazaki, Collins & Aikman, Lear and Guide, the Avilla facility employs 350 people, with four scheduled to participate in the Ivy Tech training.
- **Heat, Treat, Inc. (HTI)** is a commercial heat-treat company specializing in the austempering heating process. Founded in 1976, HTI is one of the largest austempering heat-treat companies in the country. Austempering is a hardening process for certain metals known as “ferrous alloys,” which produces better mechanical properties, particularly higher ductility, resistance to shock and fatigue stresses. HTI employs 16 people, with one person scheduled for training at Ivy Tech.
- Located in Logansport, **Logan Stampings, Inc.** specializes in precision custom-made stampings, metal fabrication, and light assembly. Its products are used in the automotive, construction, furniture industries as well as in electronic terminals and metal coil body housings. Logan Stampings, Inc. employs 62 people, of which four will be participating in this training.
- **Matthew-Warren Inc.** has been in the spring, stamping and four-slide parts business for more than 70 years. Its 287,000 square-foot facility is located in Logansport, and with annual sales of \$26 million, Matthew-Warren Inc. is one of the four largest heavy-duty industrial spring manufacturers in the United States. Matthew-Warren Inc. will be sending 16 of its employees to training at Ivy Tech.
- **Modine Manufacturing Co.**, a thermal management company, specializes in heating and cooling technology. Located in Logansport and founded in 1916, Modine Manufacturing employs 213 people and is sending eight employees for training.
- **Small Parts Inc.** of Logansport, is a supplier of precision metal stampings. Founded in 1958, Small Parts Inc. produces stampings per customer specifications. Its customers include the automotive, electrical distribution, power tools and appliance industries. Small Parts Inc. employs 304 people, 40 of whom will receive training.
- **Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.**, formerly IBP, Inc., is the world's largest supplier of premium beef and pork, as well as allied products such as tanned hides used to make leather. Logansport's plant specializes in pork processing, with a total employment of 1,800 people. The company is sending 104 workers for training.

All Indiana businesses are eligible to apply for Incumbent Worker Training grants. The grants are designed to create a world-class workforce in Indiana, through continuous improvement to the skill levels of Hoosier workers.

Through its various programs and initiatives, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, works with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates the a statewide job placement service.

For more information on this or other DWD programs call 1-888-465-4616 or visit the web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.

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